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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Commissioner of Labour

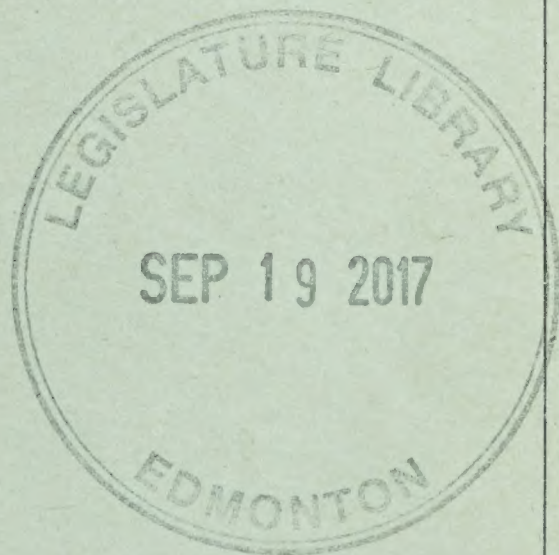
OF THE

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

1928-9

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



EDMONTON:
W. D. McLEAN, KING'S PRINTER
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Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour of the Province of Alberta for the Fiscal Year 1928-29

HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta,
Edmonton, Alberta.

SIR:—

I have the honour to submit herewith the report of the Bureau of Labour for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1929.

During the period, 15,978 pieces of mail were received and 28,770 ordinary, 1,316 registered, and 1,978 parcels sent out; 2,473 pieces of cash, amounting in total to \$45,621.08, were received and 326 expenditure vouchers prepared. Records of income and expenditure have been checked with the Audit and were found to balance.

The policy of using the services of all Inspectors for inspections under the provisions of The Factories Act, Minimum Wage Act, and Theatre Regulations was continued and proved very satisfactory.

Inspections under The Steam Boilers Act were carried out very efficiently and show a further increase in the number inspected.

The returns from the Employment Service show there were greater employment opportunities in the industries of the Province.

The report of the Minimum Wage Board contains a record of the various matters which received attention during the period.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) W. SMITTEN,
Commissioner of Labour.

STATISTICS OF TRADES AND INDUSTRIES

The returns received this year indicate an expansion of business generally during the fiscal year 1928-29.

Returns from 2,274 firms covered 48,834 male employees over eighteen, 935 males under eighteen, 7,291 females over eighteen, 371 females under eighteen, and 699 apprentices. Total payroll for wages and salaries was \$69,304,803.13, of which sum \$60,917,887.17 was paid to wage earners.

The returns, when considered as to employment by months for males, show a greater difference than in previous years. This is due to the heavy construction programme carried on during the summer and fall, with no counter-balancing extra

employment during the other months. April was the month of least employment, when 33,900 were employed, and August the month of greatest, when 45,181 were employed.

There was a marked increase in the numbers employed during the last six months of the year over those employed for the first six months.

As in previous years, the returns, when considered by individual industries, show great fluctuations, and when this is considered with the grouped totals, it is apparent that for the unskilled work in the various industries, men interchange from one to the other, thereby maintaining a better general balance.

The returns of monthly employment of females show an increase in the number employed throughout the year. January was the month of least employment, when 6,088 were employed; following this there was a steady increase each month to September, when 7,500 were employed, and then a slight decrease for the remaining three months.

The accompanying tables give in detail the industrial returns.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF TRADES AND INDUSTRIES—RETURNS FROM 2,274 FIRMS
Pay-Rolls

Officers, Superintendents and Managers	\$ 8,386,915.96
Clerks, Stenographers, Bookkeepers, etc.	8,834,171.29
Wage-earners (including piece-workers, salesmen, etc.)	52,083,715.88
Total	\$69,304,803.13

CLASSIFIED WEEKLY WAGE RATES (WAGE-EARNERS ONLY)

For Week of Employment of Greatest Number	MALES		FEMALES		Appren- tices
	18 Years & Over	Under 18 Years	18 Years & Over	Under 18 Years	
Under \$6.00	110	37	268	10	20
\$ 6.00 to \$ 6.99	27	26	70	17	70
7.00 to 7.99	45	65	68	11	34
8.00 to 8.99	118	93	164	12	68
9.00 to 9.99	104	96	196	67	36
10.00 to 10.99	354	124	385	68	122
11.00 to 11.99	172	75	209	24	81
12.00 to 12.99	422	153	1,036	83	73
13.00 to 13.99	513	45	361	22	19
14.00 to 14.99	2,627	37	505	23	22
15.00 to 15.99	1,459	53	673	18	20
16.00 to 16.99	824	54	451	8	16
17.00 to 17.99	878	14	368	3	13
18.00 to 18.99	3,269	36	418	..	11
19.00 to 19.99	1,930	6	192	2	..
20.00 to 20.99	2,134	7	371	..	14
21.00 to 21.99	1,397	2	180	..	5
22.00 to 22.99	2,302	4	195	3	8
23.00 to 23.99	1,235	4	194	..	9
24.00 to 24.99	2,476	1	144	..	6
25.00 to 25.99	1,811	..	248	..	3
26.00 to 26.99	1,235	1	79	..	4
27.00 to 27.99	1,874	1	61	..	21
28.00 to 28.99	970	..	60	..	..
29.00 to 29.99	1,324	..	30	..	3
30.00 to 34.99	7,666	..	168	..	17
35.00 to 39.99	3,968	..	103	..	4
40.00 to 44.99	3,439	1	62	..	..
45.00 to 49.99	1,659	..	20	..	..
50.00 and over	2,492	..	12	..	..
Totals	48,834	935	7,291	371	699

AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES EACH MONTH

	Male	Female		Male	Female
January	35,115	6,088	July	44,400	7,391
February	34,383	6,090	August	45,181	7,362
March	33,942	6,241	September	44,790	7,500
April	33,900	6,460	October	44,072	7,283
May	39,980	6,864	November	44,124	7,303
June	42,024	7,190	December	42,187	7,463

WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR				PERIOD OF OPERATION.			
	2	employees	worked	2	hours.	1,973	firms operated 52 weeks.
	2	"	"	3	"	6	"
	3	"	"	4	"	17	"
	11	"	"	5	"	5	"
	9	"	"	6	"	14	"
	9	"	"	7	"	1	"
	3	"	"	8	"	7	"
	140	"	"	9	"	7	"
	1	"	"	10	"	8	"
	16	"	"	12	"	6	"
	24	"	"	14	"	10	"
	3	"	"	15	"	3	"
	20	"	"	16	"	7	"
	9	"	"	17	"	13	"
	13	"	"	18	"	5	"
	27	"	"	19	"	8	"
	1	"	"	20	"	12	"
	11	"	"	21	"	15	"
	7	"	"	22	"	9	"
	9	"	"	24	"	3	"
	46	"	"	25	"	13	"
	12	"	"	26	"	1	"
	8	"	"	27	"	9	"
	9	"	"	28	"	2	"
	422	"	"	29	"	6	"
	6	"	"	30	"	5	"
	92	"	"	31	"	11	"
	1	"	"	32	"	5	"
	33	"	"	33	"	7	"
	44	"	"	34	"	2	"
	17	"	"	35	"	12	"
	23	"	"	36	"	8	"
	162	"	"	37	"	3	"
	52	"	"	38	"	2	"
	114	"	"	39	"	5	"
	675	"	"	40	"	7	"
	491	"	"	41	"	7	"
	165	"	"	42	"	3	"
	857	"	"	43	"	4	"
	42	"	"	44	"	3	"
	10,668	"	"	45	"	4	"
	1,102	"	"	46	"	1	"
	650	"	"	47	"	1	"
	464	"	"	48	"	1	"
	25,197	"	"	49	"	1	"
	355	"	"	50	"	6	"
	2,396	"	"	51	"	6	"
	316	"	"	52	"	2	"
	387	"	"	53	"	6	"
	243	"	"	54	"	2	"
	3,867	"	"	55	"	1	"
	364	"	"	56	"		
	803	"	"	57	"		
	32	"	"	58	"		
	58	"	"	60	"		
	7,121	"	"	61	"		
	2	"	"	62	"		
	5	"	"	63	"		
	46	"	"	64	"		
	25	"	"	65	"		
	11	"	"	66	"		
	9	"	"	68	"		
	2	"	"	70	"		
	288	"	"	71	"		
	1	"	"	77	"		
	14	"	"	78	"		
	1	"	"	84	"		
	97	"	"	90	"		
	1	"	"	91	"		
	15	"	"				

LABOUR DISPUTES ACT
THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF MINISTER
Charged with the Administration of the Act

TO HIS HONOUR,
WILLIAM EGBERT,
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

SIR—

In compliance with the provisions of Section 69 of The Labour Disputes Act, I have the honour to submit the following report relating to the matters transacted by me under the provisions of The Labour Disputes Act during the year 1928.

Applications were received for the appointment of Boards of Conciliation and Investigation as follows:

1. From the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper-hangers, Local No. 583, of Calgary, in respect of an alleged dispute between the Local Union and the Master Painters' Association of Calgary, April 18, 1928;
2. From the International Association of Machinists, Local No. 1004, of Edmonton, in respect of an alleged dispute between the Local Union and the Edmonton Automobile Dealers' Association, of Edmonton, May 4, 1928;
3. From the International Association of Machinists, Local No. 1006, of Calgary, in respect of an alleged dispute between the Local Union and the Calgary Automobile Dealers' Association, of Calgary, May 4, 1928;
4. From the International Association of Machinists, Local No. 1057, of Lethbridge, in respect of an alleged dispute between the Local Union and the Lethbridge Automobile Dealers' Association, May 5, 1928;
5. From the International Brotherhood of Boiler-makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers, Local No. 392, of Calgary, in respect of an alleged dispute between certain of its members and the Riverside Iron Works, of Calgary, June 23, 1928.

The applications were in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and Boards were appointed as follows:

1. W. G. Carpenter, Chairman; Manley J. Edwards, representing Employers, and T. B. Riley, representing Employees;
2. T. S. Magee, Chairman; Stuart Matheson, representing Employers, and A. Farmilo, representing Employees;
3. L. W. Brockington, Chairman; H. A. Howard, representing Employers, and A. Davison, representing Employees;
4. John Dow, Chairman; R. C. Farris, representing Employers, and W. Alford, representing Employees;
5. L. W. Brockington, Chairman; A. H. Goodall, representing Employers, and F. J. White, representing Employees.

The persons appointed were, in respect of the representatives of employers and employees, those suggested by the parties affected, and in respect of chairmen, those suggested by the representatives of employers and employees respectively.

In respect of the dispute between the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers, and Master Painters, the Board was able to persuade the two parties to agree upon wages and working conditions and an agreement was signed between the two parties, to be operative until March 31, 1930.

In respect of the dispute between certain members of the Boiler-makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers, and the Riverside Iron Works, as a result of the activities of the Board, an agreement was signed between the Company and the Employees affected.

In respect of the dispute between the Machinists' Union and the Calgary Automobile Dealers' Association, the Board submitted an unanimous report, in which were incorporated minimum wage rates and working conditions. The recommendations of the Board were accepted by both parties, but no agreement was signed.

In respect of the dispute between the Machinists' Union and the Lethbridge Automobile Dealers' Association, the Board submitted an unanimous report, recommending minimum wage rates and working conditions. The recommendations of the Board were accepted by the members of the Union, but while individual Employers put into operation a number of the recommendations of the Board, no general acceptance was made.

In respect of the dispute between the Machinists' Union and the Edmonton Automobile Dealers' Association, the Board submitted an unanimous report in which was a recommendation that each party appoint representatives to meet jointly, with a view to an agreement being made fixing wages and working conditions for the industry in the city. The recommendations of the Board were accepted by the members of the Union, but the Employers stated that they were not prepared to meet with a committee of the Union, but were ready to discuss any grievance with members, or a committee of their individual staffs.

A copy of each report was published in *The Alberta Gazette*, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier.

INSPECTIONS

FACTORIES ACT

The policy of using all inspectors appointed within the Bureau of Labour for general inspections under The Factories Act and Minimum Wage Act was continued.

The returns from Inspectors showed marked expansion in business. New industries were established and practically every

one of the existing industries increased its staff. The increase in male employees was 5,016, or 24 per cent., and in female employees 2,026, or 32 per cent.

Under the provisions of The Factories Act, 4,381 inspections were made of 4,019 factories, shops, hotels, offices and office buildings, in which were employed 26,079 males and 8,362 females.

Recommendations relative to safety, sanitation, hours and wages and the employment of children to the number of 1,269 were made, all of which were fully carried out by employers. All places within the scope of the Act received one inspection visit during the year, subsequent visits being for the purpose of checking up on recommendations, on complaint, or where there is a varying element of risk.

We also made 575 inspections of 563 elevators in connection with which 253 safety recommendations were made. Of the elevators inspected, 144 were passenger, 405 freight and 14 Humphrey.

The cities of Lethbridge and Medicine Hat not having resident Inspectors, received periodical visits. Lethbridge received six and Medicine Hat four.

Inspectors issued a number of permits for overtime for reasons of trade during the year. These were for stocktaking, for seasonal occupations, and banquets.

No apprenticeship indentures were submitted for approval during the year.

The accompanying tables explain in detail the work performed.

Table No. 1 gives the number of inspections made, during the period under review, of shops (retail and wholesale), factories, offices and office buildings, the number of employees, male and female, engaged in each industry, and the number of recommendations made.

TABLE No. 1

A TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1929

Industry	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected	No. of Males Employed	No. of Females Employed	Total No. of Employees	Recommendations Made
Shops	2,065	1,887	8,352	4,115	12,467	84
Factories	1,133	1,058	13,797	2,425	16,222	1,170
Offices and Office Buildings	1,183	1,074	3,930	1,822	5,752	15
Total	4,381	4,019	26,079	8,362	34,441	1,269

Table No. 2 gives a tabulation of inspections made by location of industries.

TABLE No. 2.

TABULATION BY CITIES OF INSPECTIONS MADE, GIVING NUMBER OF PLACES INSPECTED, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (MALE AND FEMALE) EMPLOYED

Location	No. of Inspections	No. of Places Inspected and Nature of Industry	No. of Employees		Total No. of Employees
			Male	Female	
Edmonton	811	715 Shops	3,090	1,772	4,862
"	517	416 Offices and Office Buildings	1,182	639	1,821
"	260	228 Factories	4,028	1,262	5,290
Total	1,588	1,359 Places	8,300	3,673	11,973
Calgary	1,003	935 Shops	4,562	1,961	6,523
"	586	580 Offices and Office Buildings	2,666	1,090	3,756
"	333	301 Factories	6,269	792	7,061
Total	1,922	1,816 Places	13,497	3,843	17,340
Lethbridge	155	143 Shops	512	245	757
"	58	56 Offices and Office Buildings	49	64	113
"	39	37 Factories	508	72	580
Total	252	236 Places	1,069	381	1,450
Medicine Hat	96	94 Shops	188	137	325
"	22	22 Offices and Office Buildings	33	29	62
"	35	33 Factories	705	129	834
Total	153	149 Places	926	295	1,221
Other Points	466	459 Factories	2,287	170	2,449

Table No. 3 gives a tabulation of the recommendations made by locality and industry. "Safety" covers the guarding of machinery, stairways and openings and the providing of fire escapes and access thereto. "Health" covers sanitation, ventilation and lighting. "Hours and Wages" are recommendations made to enforce the observances of the provisions of Sections 20 and 23 of the Act. "Number of Children Employed" are recommendations made, where children under fifteen years of age were found to be employed, for the discontinuance of same.

TABLE No. 3

TABULATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ACCORDING TO LOCATION AND NATURE OF INDUSTRY

Location	Industry	Safety	Hours	Wages	No. of Children Employed	Health	Total
Edmonton	Shops	9	8	8	1	7	33
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	..	1	5	..	1	7
"	Factories	19	15	8	5	10	57
	Total	28	24	21	6	18	97
Calgary	Shops	5	21	2	..	11	39
"	Offices and Office Buildings	2	1	3	..	2	8
"	Factories	28	11	1	3	10	53
	Total	35	33	6	3	23	100
Lethbridge	Shops .....	..	2	..	1	2	5
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Factories	2	1	1	..	1	5
	Total	2	3	1	1	3	10
Medicine Hat....	Shops .....	..	7	..	..	..	7
"	Offices and Office Buildings .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
"	Factories	3	2	..	..	2	7
	Total	3	9	..	..	2	14
Other Points....	Factories	1023	4	19	..	2	1048

TABLE No. 4

Tabulation of Elevator Inspections

Location of Elevators	Passenger Elevators			Freight Elevators			Humphrey Elevators			Total Number		
	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	No. of Insps.	No. of Elevs.	No. of Recs.	Inspections	Elevators	Recommendations
Edmonton	48	46	15	149	147	79	2	2	..	199	195	94
Calgary	73	73	60	214	206	62	6	6	..	293	285	122
Lethbridge	6	6	2	25	25	20	1	1	..	32	32	22
Medicine Hat	2	2	..	19	19	8	5	5	..	26	26	8
Other Places	17	17	4	8	8	3	..	..	..	25	25	7
Total	146	144	81	415	405	172	14	14	..	575	563	253

MINIMUM WAGE ACT

Under the provisions of The Minimum Wage Act, 3,041 inspections were made of 2,693 businesses, in which were employed 7,903 experienced females and 945 learners; 252 orders

for adjustments of wages, 59 for adjustments of hours, and 31 for adjustment of staff, so that not more than 25 per cent. would be in receipt of apprentice wages, were made.

There was an increase in the total number of females employed under all orders. The total increase under all orders was 1,908, or 27 per cent.

Inspectors found a number of females in receipt of wages less than the minimum rate and a number who were working longer hours than the maximum fixed by the Board. All wages and hours were adjusted by employers when the infractions were brought to their attention by the Inspector.

Three court cases were taken against proprietors of restaurants for failing to pay minimum wages. Two convictions were obtained and the employer was ordered to pay back wages; one case was dismissed.

A number of permits were issued for overtime to be worked to take care of emergencies that had arisen. In all cases we were advised regarding the number of hours worked and the amount paid for same.

The accompanying table explains in detail the work performed.

TABULATION OF INSPECTIONS, NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER THE MINIMUM WAGE ACT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1928, TO MARCH 31, 1929.

	No. of Inspections	No. of Businesses Visited	No. of Experienced Female Employees	No. of Apprentices	Recommendations for Adjustment		
					Wages	Hours	Percent- age Ap- prentices
Order No. 1— Manufacturing	272	252	1065	265	33	2	18
Order No. 2— Laundries, Dyeing and Cleaning	33	28	355	101	28	1	4
Order No. 3— Hotels and Restaurants..	445	322	1241	67	119	44	6
Order No. 4— Personal Service	147	119	278	18	9	..	..
Order No. 5— Office Occupation	1657	1518	3324	186	37	4	1
Order No. 6— Retail Establishments	482	451	1629	177	26	8	2
Order No. 7— Fruit and Vegetable Canning	5	3	1	131	..	..	..
Totals of All.	3041	2693	7903	945	252	59	31

THEATRE INSPECTION

(G. P. BARBER, *Chief Inspector*)

During the past year the motion picture industry has received a very decided impetus through the introduction of synchronized sound pictures. This new form of entertainment is quite likely to expand into a complete refashioning of the show business.

Projection room regulations have been revised to meet this new condition. The meeting of Theatre Inspectors last year enabled us to gather definite information on sound picture equipment and to anticipate the safety requirements in connection therewith.

Another mark of progress is our film report system. At one time it was next to impossible to place the blame for damaged prints just where it belonged, as we had no records of the films shown by each exhibitor, but now an operator is required to report the condition of films received by him, the number of times run through his machine and the details of any film trouble he may have experienced during his show.

For the past three months—or since beginning the film report system—4,322 separate report slips have been received and filed, 8 complaints have been adjusted and 2 prints ordered out of circulation. As the installation of sound equipment increases, the relative importance of this phase of our work will become more apparent.

Film exchanges require to get sufficient runs out of a print to cover their financial outlay. In Alberta, theatres running sound pictures cannot expect to hold patronage by using scratched or damaged prints, as with poor prints the screen effects become a thousand-fold worse than with silent prints, since the ear as well as the eye is affected. So that we expect a big development of the report system from now on.

Against 18 itinerant exhibitors in 1927 there were 25 in 1928, and an increase of 7 new circuits, representing at least 42 more halls where pictures are shown weekly.

In connection with description forms covering applications for public hall licenses, a total of 52 Compliance Certificates were issued, recommending a hall license pending and subject to a future inspection.

Two film fires occurred during the past year, with the loss of 8,000 feet of film. One fire occurred at High River, July 17th, which destroyed 3,000 feet of film. Another fire, at the Empress Theatre, Edmonton, on March 18th, 1929, destroyed 5,000 feet of film. The projectionists in both instances are to be commended for their presence of mind. The fire was confined to the projection rooms, with damage only to the films and equipment.

The tables attached to this report show the number of inspections made, the picture machines examined and projectionists' certificates issued, together with revenue received.

REPORT OF MINIMUM WAGE BOARD

HON. J. E. BROWNLEE,
Premier of Alberta.

SIR—

The Minimum Wage Board of Alberta has the honour to present its sixth annual report covering the various matters which have been dealt with by the Board during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1929.

Requests received for decisions to be made necessitated the holding of six meetings.

Six requests were received from individual firms for permission to work their female employees overtime to permit of seasonal rush trade being taken care of; all these requests were granted. Additional to this, requests were received from merchants of Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat for permission to work their employees additional hours during Christmas rush. Permission was granted to all merchants who applied. In each case, employers were required to observe the provisions of the various orders of the Board relative to payment for overtime.

One request was received for a special rate to be fixed for a handicapped employee. After investigation and report by an Inspector of the Bureau of Labour, a special rate was fixed.

Five requests were received for permission to employ a greater number of apprentices than is permitted by the regulations. Investigations showed that experienced help was not available; permission was, therefore, granted for the number necessary to meet the requirements of the industries.

A new industry, that of canning fruit and vegetables, was established during the year. After careful investigation, the Board decided it was advisable to make a new order applicable to this industry and Order No. 7 was made June 29th, 1928. The order provides for a minimum rate of \$12.50 per week for experienced employees; rates for apprentices are \$9.00 per week for the first month, and \$10.00 per week for the second month; the rate of \$12.50 per week to apply after two months' experience. Maximum hours of 48 per week were fixed.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) A. A. CARPENTER,
Chairman, Minimum Wage Board

(Sgd.) W. SMITTEN,
Secretary, Minimum Wage Board.

BOILER INSPECTION

(F. W. HOBSON, *Chief Inspector*)

The demand for inspection service during the past year has considerably increased the amount of work undertaken by the staff of the Boiler Branch, both as to inspection and correspondence. The increase has been particularly noticeable in the Calgary and Edmonton territories, where a large number of boilers and other pressure vessels have been sold and exchanged, subject to our inspection, for industrial purposes. One dealer reported having placed over 80 steam boilers in less than 12 months, and reports of sales from other dealers also show a considerable increase over recent years, both for new and second-hand pressure vessels. Much of this equipment was taken over by the power companies from various municipalities and private concerns, and, as The Boilers Act required an inspection in each instance before it could be re-sold, the inspectors have been in great demand.

Considerable steam power has been added to plants in the oil fields where the boiler-working pressures have increased to 250 pounds, in some instances, to operate the large rotary drills. Extra power has been added in order to rush the completion of the Calgary Power Company's large dam at Ghost River.

The increased output of the mines and sawmills over recent years has also required additional power and created more inspection service. To meet these demands the staff has averaged 77 inspections and issued 46 more boiler inspection certificates per month than for the preceding year.

Early in June, Inspector Cargill undertook the work in the Peace River territory, and, due to the favorable weather conditions, was able to cover the entire inspection service in this district by the end of September. The services of an inspector in this district were badly needed, since it had not been gone over for the past three years previous to this visit.

In addition to this northern inspection work, Mr. Scott has covered a large portion of the north-eastern territory of the Province. The Medicine Hat district has been entirely covered during the year by Inspector Dick, but the work in other districts could only be partially completed, due to the large number of pressure vessels contained in them.

CLASSIFICATION OF BOILERS AND OTHER PRESSURE VESSELS INSPECTED
FROM APRIL 1st, 1928, TO MARCH 31st, 1929.

Type of Boiler or Pressure Vessel	Inspectors										Total
	Marshall	Dick	Hawkins	Hargreaves	Bradshaw	McLeod	Douglas	Cargill	Scott	Alexander	
Horizontal Return Tubular..	40	43	51	23	40	35	10	65	54	40	401
Horizontal Furnace	4	..	4	2	4	2	3	22	10	14	65
Water Tube	34	9	22	14	11	4	..	19	20	2	135
Locomotive	59	111	86	82	135	64	3	148	77	129	894
Vertical	14	10	11	37	9	6	6	37	33	14	177
Air Receivers	74	119	24	114	180	176	14	87	80	261	1,129
Steel Heating	69	55	18	29	38	16	8	18	84	18	353
Cast Iron	7	41	31	28	28	23	20	6	30	34	248
Miscellaneous .....	..	3	6	2	..	..	2	..	8	2	23
Total No. Inspected.....	301	391	253	331	445	326	66	402	396	514	3,425
Total No. Inspection Visits..	403	427	324	586	607	378	69	413	434	653	4,294
Total No. Certificates Issued	291	343	253	327	330	326	64	341	274	379	2,928
Condition of Pressure Vessels Inspected—											
Good	197	224	149	204	335	259	41	248	224	332	2,213
Fair	96	160	103	125	93	48	21	128	156	159	1,089
Poor	4	..	4	2	2	19	3	19	16	18	87
Condemned	4	7	9	7	15	5	1	7	..	5	60
Special Inspections under Sec. 16 of Act.....	11	11	..	6	1	2	1	2	6	4	44

In addition to the foregoing work, the Boilers Branch staff undertook the following service under the provisions of The Factories Act at a number of points visited for boiler inspection purposes, thereby saving considerable time and transportation expenses which would otherwise have been expended by the Bureau:

Vegreville District	114 inspections at 112 places.
Edmonton Western District	16 " " 16 "
Edmonton Eastern District	12 " " 12 "
Red Deer District	31 " " 31 "
Drumheller District	149 " " 149 "
Calgary Western District	42 " " 39 "
Calgary Eastern District	10 " " 10 "
Lethbridge District	43 " " 43 "
Medicine Hat District	38 " " 33 "

The foregoing totals are: 455 inspections at 450 places, and include the inspection of 56 oil and gas drilling plants, also 293 grain elevators.

Mr. Fraser McLeod, late Master Mechanic of the Luscar Collieries, was appointed as Inspector of the Red Deer district, on June 1st, with headquarters at Red Deer, to replace Mr. John Douglas, when he was transferred to the Public Works Department.

While there have been several accidents to boilers and pressure vessels during the year, none of these have resulted in serious bodily injuries, and we have had no occasion to report any fatalities due to the use of steam power in this Province throughout the year.

One of the fire tubes in a locomotive-type boiler failed while the fireman was in the act of firing the boiler, which was operating in the Vegreville district. The fireman, fortunately, got clear with a scalded arm.

The crown sheet in the boiler of a locomotive operated by the North-West Lumber Company, at Greencourt, failed. Previous to the accident, several of the crown stays commenced to leak, and, while trying to close the leakage by hammering up the stay-bolt heads, the threads on other adjoining stays became loosened in the sheet and some time afterwards the pressure distended the crown sheet to the extent that the threads in at least twenty crown stays were stretched and pulled through the sheet. Upon investigation, it was found that the failure did not take place due to over-heating, but that the stays were not properly tightened in the plate. These locomotives are subject to excessive strain, owing to roadbed conditions, and it has been concluded that the failure of the fire-box stays was largely due to this condition. Fortunately, no personal injury resulted.

A bad leak developed from behind one of the flanges on the main steam header connecting the 650 horse-power Water Tube boilers in the East Kootenay Power Plant at Sentinel. Upon examining the pipe, a long crack was found at the base of the threads, extending one-third of the circumference of the piping. This header carried super-heated steam from the boilers at a gauge pressure of 220 pounds with 150 degrees of superheat. Had the leakage not received prompt attention, a most serious explosion would undoubtedly have resulted.

The 58 in. drum driving a counter-shaft at the Canadian Sugar Factories, Raymond, which was directly belted to the engine fly-wheel, burst in pieces when the large drive belt connecting the drum to the engine fly-wheel broke. The engineer had started the engine, which was just about up to normal speed, when the belt let go, wedging itself in between the face of the drum and the channel iron suspension members, thereby causing the drum to go to pieces. The engineer immediately closed down the engine. While examining a new steel pulley which was procured as a replacement, Inspector Marshall checked up the engine fly-wheel and found the eight bolts attaching the two halves of the fly-wheel together were very slack. Upon removing several bolts, the bolt holes were found to be $\frac{1}{4}$ in. larger than the bolts instead of being a driving fit. The Inspector consequently condemned the fly-wheel until new bolts had been procured and fitted.

A serious gas explosion occurred in the fire-box of a boiler used for the heating of the British American Oil Company's offices in Calgary. This boiler is situated in the basement, and when the assistant manager entered the basement to regulate the gas supply, he noticed that the pilot light had gone out owing to the thermostat control having closed it off. He, thereupon, lit a match which ignited the escaping gas, causing a violent explosion, which released its main force through the fire-box door opening, throwing him a distance of eight feet under the stairway. The smoke-box doors on the opposite end of the boiler were blown open, and the pressure of the explosion having broken down the partition surrounding the boiler, exhausted itself through the basement windows, which were blown out. Upon inquiry, it was found that the thermostat control had

opened the gas line, after the pilot light had gone out, thus allowing the gas to escape in the boiler fire-box and the immediate vicinity.

Another explosion occurred in a gas-fired furnace located beneath an oil retort operated by the Wainwell Oil Co., at Wainwright. The explosion blew the brick-work of the furnace outwards and lifted off the arched roof about the retort. A portion of the brick-work struck the steam piping attached to a locomotive-type boiler, which was operating at the side of the retort, and broke off one of the steam pipes of the boiler, causing it to blow down. One man was slightly injured as a result of the explosion.

At the Canadian Sugar Refineries plant, at Raymond, on October 24th, a water tube in No. 2 Stirling Water Tube Boiler pulled out of the fourth row from the manhole end of one of the upper drums while the steam gauge registered 160 pounds pressure. Fortunately, the automatic stop and check valve attached to the main steam pipe acted immediately, thereby isolating the boiler from the other boilers which were attached to the same header. The boiler rapidly emptied itself through this tube opening and blew the fire out of the furnace into the boiler room which is, fortunately, not inflammable. An examination of a section of the tube which failed showed that the material was clean but the texture very poor and lacking in uniformity. All of the remaining tubes in this boiler were found, on inspection, to be intact. The ends of the tubes project at least $\frac{1}{2}$ in. through the inside of the drum plate and are well flared. We have not been able to ascertain the cause of this accident, since the tube was not located in any of the bent rows, but was one of the straight-line tubes which lie directly between the upper and lower drums.

One of the 11 in. x 12 in. Robb-Armstrong Exciter Unit engines was wrecked in the Calgary City Power House at 1.00 a.m. on June 28th. Investigation showed that the governor spring which actuated the fly-wheel inertia governor had fractured through the bolt-hole, allowing the main valve full travel. This caused the engine speed to rise to a critical point, resulting in the engine wrecking itself. All the spokes in the fly-wheel were fractured, but, as no one was in the vicinity of the engine at the time, no personal injury resulted, although, if the engine had been equipped with a safety stop, as required by the regulations, the accident would possibly not have occurred.

Monthly examinations have been conducted at each District Inspector's headquarters at seven points in the Province during the year, making a total of eighty-four examinations. In addition to these, the applicants residing in Peace River territory were also given an opportunity to prove their qualifications during the time of Inspector Cargill's visit to that part of the Province. A summary of the number and class of certificates issued during the year has been tabulated for your perusal, as follows:

NUMBER AND CLASS OF CERTIFICATE ISSUED

Inspector	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Tract. Final	F.F. Cert.	Prov. Cert.	Pen. Prov.	Permits
J. F. Hawkins	12	1	35	4	1	82	8	..
Nat Marshall	12	..	37	2	7	28	12	13
A. Bradshaw .....	..	..	9	12	..	14	11	..
R. Scott .....	..	2	7	7	..	29	15	3
A. W. Dick .....	..	1	7	..	..	27	8	3
T. J. Hargreaves .....	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	3
J. Douglas .....	..	1	2	..	..	2	1	..
J. F. Cargill .....	..	2	39	7	3	65	14	..
F. McLeod .....	..	1	8	4	..	21	8	4
H. G. Alexander .....	..	..	8	4	..	34	22	1
Office .....	..	3	27	9	1	26	143	20
Totals	4	11	179	39	12	332	243	47

A total of 47 permits has been issued under the provisions of Section 39 of The Boilers Act. Before issuing any one of these permits we have taken much care in considering the necessity for issuing the same.

The number of prosecutions for alleged violation of the Act is much lower than that of preceding years, the total convictions for the year being 8. These convictions were obtained largely with the co-operation of the Provincial Police, who have materially assisted us in this respect. There were two convictions secured under Section 6 of the Act for operating boilers which had not been licensed; two convictions under Section 38 of the Act for illegally taking charge of and operating a boiler without holding the required certificate of qualification; one conviction under Section 26 for operating a boiler without an inspection certificate having been previously issued; one conviction under Section 40 of the Act where the employer engaged an uncertificated engineer to take charge of his steam plant; two convictions under Section 38 of the Act against engineers who absented themselves from duty while the plant was in operation.

In conclusion, we are submitting to you a schedule of the fees collected under the Act during the twelve-month period above mentioned.

FEEES COLLECTED

For Inspection of Boilers and Special Inspections..	\$16,547.44
“ Examination of Candidates for Engineers’ Cer- tificates	4,160.00
“ Permits	352.50
“ Survey of Drawings	936.50
“ Issue of Boiler License Plates	7,222.50
“ Engineers’ Re-registration Certificates	170.00
“ Miscellaneous	419.76
	<u>\$29,808.70</u>

REPORT OF DIRECTOR, ALBERTA GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICES

Industry generally throughout the Province was very active during the year. This was reflected in the work of employment offices by increased requests from employers for workmen. The number of vacancies filled was 72,924.

There was an increase in the vacancies for building construction, domestic and personal, general labouring, miscellaneous and casual employment, agriculture; railroad construction and operation, mining and manufacturing were practically equal, while there was a material reduction in the vacancies for lumbering.

Of the 72,924 vacancies filled, 63,723 were for males and 9,201 for females.

While we had an increase in the number of vacancies filled for females, many more could have been placed on farms and in domestic employment in the cities had they been available. During the year we had 831 more vacancies for females on farms than applicants, and 500 more vacancies than applicants for domestic work in the cities.

Of the male placements, 41,074 were sent to farms, 2,877 to building construction, 171 to clerical work, 1,534 to domestic and personal occupations, 3,099 to general labouring, 3,884 to lumber camps, 545 to manufacturing industries, 13 to professional and technical occupations, 2,179 for railroad construction and operation, 872 for mining, 1,616 to miscellaneous occupations, and 5,859 for casual employment.

Of the female placements, 1,924 were sent to farms, 2,790 as domestics, 26 to clerical positions, 55 to manufacturing, 14 to miscellaneous occupations and 4,392 to casual employment.

The operating costs were maintained at the low level of the previous year, but with the increase in work performed the average cost for each vacancy filled was reduced from 62 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents to 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents.

The continued and extended use made of the offices by employers and workmen indicates an appreciation of the service given. The percentage of vacancies received that were filled and applicants who were found employment shows how closely we are meeting requirements.

This year, of the 64,249 vacancies received in the male section, 99.2 per cent. were filled, and of the 66,559 male applicants 89.2 per cent. were found positions. Of the 10,922 vacancies received in the female section 84.2 per cent. were filled, and of the 9,660 female applicants 90.6 per cent. were found positions.

Following the practice of previous years, during June a circular was forwarded to all United Farmers' Locals, requesting a statement of the acreage in crop. The returns indicated an increase over 1927.

Periodical returns received of crop conditions indicated a heavy yield per acre. From this information we were able to arrive at as fairly an accurate estimate of the men required for the harvest as possible.

During July, a meeting was held in Winnipeg of representatives of the Employment Service of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia, with the Western Passenger Association of the railways, to arrange for the bringing of sufficient numbers of men to the Prairies to harvest the crop.

The estimated requirements at that date were: Manitoba, 12,000; Saskatchewan, 40,000; Alberta, 23,000. Local harvest labour available was estimated to be: Manitoba, 6,000; Saskatchewan, 10,000; Alberta, 9,000. Labour available in British Columbia was estimated to be 6,000, which left 44,000 to be brought by excursion from the East. The estimated requirements from the East last year were 27,000.

The railways were requested, and agreed, to run the excursions from the East in three series, dates of arrival at Winnipeg to be August 13th, 17th and 24th.

Excursions from British Columbia were limited to Alberta and Western Saskatchewan, and excursions from the East were available to all provinces. Dates for excursions from British Columbia were fixed to be August 8th to 31st inclusive.

In view of the fact that employment conditions in Eastern Canada were good, and the experiences of previous years when the number who came from the East was much less than that requested, arrangements were made for the entry of men from border states under similar conditions to that which prevailed the previous year, should the situation warrant such importation.

Shortly prior to the general harvest labour movement, an agreement was entered into between the Imperial Government and the two railway companies, under which it was proposed to bring 10,000 unemployed miners from Britain to work in the western harvest fields. Under this movement 8,500 men were landed in Western Canada during the third week of August.

On account of cold, wet weather, which prevailed during the latter part of July and early August, harvesting operations were delayed and for a period there was a heavy surplus of men in all provinces. However, when harvesting was general, all of these men were absorbed and there was a shortage of help for a period.

The experiment of bringing men from Britain for harvest was not as successful as was expected. These men were strange to the customs of the country, required individual attention in placement, which is not possible during the heavy rush of this period, and did not adapt themselves very readily to the work.

The total number of harvesters who came to the Province from all sources, was 16,719, of whom 11,116 were from Britain and the East, 4,087 from British Columbia, and 1,516 from the United States.

Despite this heavy influx of men, there was at one period of harvest a shortage of 2,000 men. This situation was only temporary and was relieved in a very short time.

The accompanying charts and tables show the business transacted by the Employment Service for the period under review, by occupation, months and offices.

TOTAL BUSINESS BY OCCUPATION—APRIL 1, 1928, TO MARCH 31, 1929

MALE

OCCUPATION	Applications	Unplaced March 31	Vacancies	Unfilled March 31	Place- ments	Transfers	
						In	Out
Agriculture	38,236	208	41,521	6	35,074	6,000	1,648
Building Construction ...	3,440	50	2,894	...	2,812	65	63
Clerical and Mercantile ..	484	14	178	...	167	4	8
Domestic and Personal...	2,268	94	1,540	...	1,473	61	61
General Labourers	5,291	296	3,128	...	3,090	9	15
Lumbering	4,679	183	3,889	...	3,581	303	326
Manufacturing	1,202	83	543	...	521	24	23
Professional and Technical	69	4	14	...	9	4	1
Railroad Construction and Operation	2,113	2	2,181	...	2,126	53	14
Mining	1,252	22	876	...	828	44	44
Miscellaneous	2,625	130	1,626	...	1,582	34	42
Casuals	4,900	...	5,859	...	5,859	...	...
Totals, Male.....	66,559	1,086	64,249	6	57,122	6,601	2,245

FEMALE

Agriculture	1,904	15	2,735	89	1,324	600	146
Clerical and Mercantile ..	60	1	27	...	26	...	...
Domestic and Personal ..	3,194	42	3,694	95	2,715	75	76
Manufacturing	55	...	55	...	55	...	...
Miscellaneous	14	...	19	...	14	...	...
Casuals	4,433	3	4,392	...	4,392	...	...
Totals, Female.....	9,660	61	10,922	184	8,526	675	222

TOTAL BUSINESS BY DISTRICTS—APRIL 1, 1928, TO MARCH 31, 1929

MALE

Districts	Applications	Vacancies	Placements	Transfers	
				In	Out
Calgary	22,232	20,629	18,108	2,414	908
Edmonton	27,325	25,341	23,815	1,315	1,038
Lethbridge	5,867	7,156	5,466	1,619	102
Medicine Hat	5,399	5,659	5,241	427	114
Drumheller	5,736	5,464	4,492	826	83
	66,559	64,249	57,122	6,601	2,245

FEMALE

Calgary	3,961	4,431	3,217	198	189
Edmonton	3,217	3,856	3,157	240	8
Lethbridge	1,675	1,715	1,450	70	15
Medicine Hat	469	500	464	31	5
Drumheller	338	420	238	136	5
	9,660	10,922	8,526	675	222

TOTAL BUSINESS BY MONTHS—APRIL 1, 1928, TO MARCH 31, 1929

MALE

Months	Applications	Vacancies	Placements	Transfers	
				In	Out
April	5,974	6,209	5,182	788	339
May	5,254	4,922	4,748	312	139
June	4,540	3,969	3,803	156	106
July	3,729	3,422	3,274	144	135
August	10,032	10,528	9,220	1,271	451
September	18,065	19,588	17,323	1,853	475
October	5,807	6,777	5,126	1,675	189
November	2,875	2,197	2,124	91	90
December	2,592	1,639	1,579	61	63
January	2,221	1,147	1,103	46	53
February	2,184	1,474	1,416	57	49
March	3,286	2,377	2,224	147	156
	66,559	64,249	57,122	6,601	2,245

FEMALE

Months	Applications	Vacancies	Placements	In	Out
April	808	991	725	46	33
May	752	826	650	27	21
June	936	1,039	800	20	18
July	730	756	629	19	19
August	954	1,167	772	95	18
September	1,102	1,347	944	192	38
October	799	865	699	89	14
November	747	844	649	142	14
December	805	847	784	11	10
January	624	649	584	7	7
February	558	582	510	7	9
March	845	1,009	780	20	21
	9,660	10,922	8,526	675	222

